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to the Apostles, which may be compared with the sounder treatment of the same subject in the article on the Rule of St. Augustine. A similar comparison might be instituted in regard to the story of the discovery of the True Cross. Professor Marucchi in his article on the Cross declares it would be unsound to reject the universal tradition of the church that it was discovered by the mother of Constantine in the year 326, while Professor Kirsch, of Fribourg, in his article on St. Helena dismisses the whole story in a single sentence as a legend. Notwithstanding these and certain other criticisms of detail, it must be said that the Catholic scholarship of the country can congratulate itself on the production of a work of reference that will command universal respect and meet a long-felt want.

A. C. HOWLAND.

University of Pennsylvania.

Churchill, W. S. *Liberalism and the Social Problem.* Pp. xxiii, 414. Price, \$1.50. New York: G. H. Doran Company, 1909.

Liberalism is long lived in England even in the form it took in the eighties. Though there is a change in attitude as to some of the great national questions confronting England—notably in an appreciation of the value of the colonies—there is much in these speeches which recalls the attitude of Gladstone and Bright. There is the same confidence in what can be accomplished by representative government, the same belief in free trade and that democracy is a force for peace.

But besides the old doctrines others are advanced which show the new Liberalism in strong contrast to the old. Industrial legislation, labor exchanges and numerous activities outlined in the budget controversy make it interesting to speculate whether the old Liberals would recognize their children. Certainly the taxation schemes, the elimination of the "diseased industries" by the state and a host of other "Liberal" propaganda emphasize how little does a party name always indicate the same thing.

Mr. Churchill's book treats of three subjects: the relation of the present government to the colonies, its social legislation and the budget. A better view of the complicated and to the outsider often conflicting elements of present English politics is hard to find.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Pennsylvania.

Foster, J. W. *Diplomatic Memoirs.* 2 vols. Pp. 672. Price, \$6.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1909.

No one who is interested in the influence of the United States in world affairs can fail to enjoy the story of this one of the longest of American careers in the foreign service. Mr. Foster's experience covers service in Mexico, Russia and Spain; he has served as Secretary of State, as the representative of the

government on various special embassies and as legal adviser to China after her disastrous war with Japan in 1894.

Frank criticism and sincere appreciation of the governments to which he has been accredited mark these volumes. In Mexico, General Foster was our representative during its trying period of regeneration. The work of Diaz in bringing his country to its present place in the family of nations is warmly praised, but the dangers of disregarding the value of training a people in real self-government are also pointed out. In the mission to Spain his familiarity with the Spanish language and character brought to General Foster an intimate acquaintance with the leading statesmen of the peninsula. The chapters covering this period of his career are the most interesting portion of the volumes and give a sympathetic and appreciative estimate of such men as Canovas, Sagasta and Castelar. These missions and an account of the intervening one to Russia occupy the first volume.

The second volume treats mainly of special commissions on which the author served, including reciprocity negotiations, the Bering Sea arbitration, Hawaiian annexation, Canadian affairs and the Second Hague Conference. The discussion of the negotiations between China and Japan brings out much new material valuable for the student of the Far East. There are also excellent character sketches in the chapters "Presidents Under Whom I Served" and "Secretaries of State." These estimates will modify the commonly accepted opinions as to the ability of some of our statesmen. Fish was able but not of the first rank. Evarts was a good lawyer but out of place "in the State Department," and Blaine, though brilliant, had serious faults as a diplomatist. These criticisms are written with a judicial fairness and substantiated by convincing illustration.

It is interesting to read the opinion of an authority of such weight upon the value of a permanent foreign service. General Foster states, "I am a strong advocate for the establishment of a regular career for the diplomatic service—I would have all secretaries of legation enter the service through a competitive examination; continue in office during good behavior; and, as they should prove worthy, have them promoted to ministers. But I doubt whether the time will ever come when our government will think it wise to confine the appointment of ministers and ambassadors entirely to promotions from the posts of secretary."

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Pennsylvania.

Hedin, Sven. *Trans-Himalaya.* 2 vols. Pp. xl, 875. Price, \$7.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1909.

"*Trans-Himalaya*" is the narrative account of one of the most important exploring expeditions undertaken in recent decades; an expedition which in results obtained and difficulties overcome deserves to rank with the work of Stanley in Africa. The relatively short time available for the writing of the two volumes—the author confessing that it was done in a little over a hundred